The members further urged that, as the formalities to be gone through before a tree can be tapped necessarily take time, several bagani trees could not be tapped at all as delay is fatal to successful tapping. They therefore requested that the tree tax system might be either wholly abolished or so modified as to suit the peculiar conditions of the malnad and pointed out that this may be done without any loss of revenue to Government.

Reply of Government.—The whole question will be carefully considered and a decision arrived at in due course.

SUBJECT No. 206.

Payment of excise revenue to inamdars.

Messrs. Madappa and V. Raghavachar, Mysore Taluk. A. Anniah Pandit, District Board, Mysore.

Summary of discussion.—Even though the right of certain inamdars to toddy revenue in their villages has been acknowledged by Government, the money has not yet been paid. It may be ordered to be paid at once. If this be not possible, at least three-fourths of the amount of the bills may be paid in advance.

Reply of Government.—The revision of the rules is under consideration and early orders will be passed.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL BOARDS

(Nos. 207-222.)

SUBJECT No. 207.

Annual municipal meetings.

Mr. Y. Narniah, Chikballapur Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Deputy Commissioners may be requested to preside over the last monthly meeting of every year of the different municipalities with a view to discuss urgent and important subjects.

Reply of Government.—No hard and fast rule can be laid down. Deputy Commissioners are not the Presidents of all the Municipalities in the district and cannot therefore preside at the meetings of those Municipal Councils of which they are not the Presidents. Although not Presidents, Deputy Commissioners have powers of control over all municipalities within their districts.

SUBJECT No. 208.

Formation of unions.

Mr. Seenappa, Hoskote Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—There is a Government order that all taluk head quarters in the State whose population is less than 5,000 should be made into unions. The formation into unions of all such taluk headquarters is likely to affect the prestige of the headquarters.

This matter was represented in 1907 and Government were pleased to say that due consideration would be bestowed on the subject. As yet no orders in the matter have been passed; it is requested that in cases where the population of the taluk headquarters is less than 5,000, the adjoining villages within two miles thereof may be added on to the headquarters, just necessary to make it into a municipality.

Reply of Government.—It is intended to continue all taluk headquarters as Municipalities.

SUBJECT No. 209.

Division of a taluk into circles.

Mr. A. Anniah Pandit, Mysore District Board.

Withdrawn.

SUBJECT No. 210.

Election of Mahomedan members to Local Boards.

Mr. C. Rasul Khan, The Anjuman-i-Islamia, Chikmagalur.

Withdrawn.

SUBJECT No. 211.

Lighting in Unions.

Mr. A. Anniah Pandit, Mysore District Board.

Withdrawn.

SUBJECT No. 212.

Sanitation of villages.

Mr. C. Sreenivasa Rao, Chikmagalur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Sanitation of villages is much neglected. A committee may be appointed for the improvement of village sanitation. Provision for good drinking water may be made in all villages.

Reply of Government.—District Sanitary Officers and Sanitary Inspectors have been appointed in order that the necessary steps may be taken for the improvement of village sanitation. A committee is unnecessary. Wells are being sunk in villages as far as funds permit.

SUBJECT No. 213.

Allotment for drinking water wells.

Messrs. Ramappa and Rangappa, Srinivaspur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The sanctioned annual allotments from the Local Fund Budget are insufficient to meet the growing necessity for drinking water. Special grants may, as in former years, be continued for a couple of years more to meet urgent needs.

Reply of Government.—Recorded.

SUBJECT No. 214.

Improvement of District headquarters.

Mr. Abdul Khalik, Chikmagalur Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—It is requested that a general policy may be laid down for the allotment of a certain sum annually from the State Budget for the improvement of the District headquarter towns as most of these cannot afford sufficient funds for improvement out of their municipal revenue.

Reply of Government.—State aid is being granted as far as funds permit for the improvement of towns. A fixed annual grant cannot be sanctioned.

SUBJECT No. 215.

Destruction of lantana.

(1) Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao, Chikmagalur Taluk.
(2) Messrs. Agali Venkataramiah, Sira Taluk, Narahariah and Chennalingappa, Nelamangala Taluk.
(3) Messrs. M. Subba Rao, Heggaddevankote Taluk, A. Ramanna, Yedatore Taluk, and Chiksubba Rao, Hunsur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) The Lantana Extirpation Act may be introduced. A penal clause is necessary for enforcing the clearance of lantana on occupied lands.

(2) Ryots use lantana and prickly-pear for hedging purposes, which not only render the locality unhealthy but take away much of the valuable land by overgrowth. It has been repeatedly urged that a regulation might be passed for the extirpation of lantana and Government were